

Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh, there is a flourishing utensil industry and the Government earns foreign exchange by exporting these products. This industry has also been affected due to inadequate power supply.

In my opinion, if the State Governments are unable to supply the required power, then efforts should be made to set up power stations in the private sector, so that power requirements could be met and the industries and the ordinary people are not affected by power shortages.

I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister of Energy to pay special attention to it and issue necessary instructions to the State Governments in this regard.

[English]

- (iii) Demand for an electronic design and technology centre at Bhubaneswar in Orissa

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): Sir, the Department of Electronics have set up centres for electronic design and technology at Srinagar and Bangalore which are catering to the design requirements for the industries around the Northern and Southern zones. It is also learnt that they are intending to set up similar institution in the Eastern Region.

With the activities generated in computer and electronics in Orissa, there is a strong necessity also to generate the knowledge and schemes required for electronic industries and also for imparting education and training at academic institutions to bring up electronic engineers. There is also a necessity to set up a Research and Development Centre in Orissa by the Department of Electronics.

As the climatic condition of Orissa is favourable for the establishment of such electronic design and technology centre and as the Government had a proposal to locate such one centre in the Eastern Zone, I demand that Bhubaneswar should be selected for the location of such an Institute which will also immediately help to boost industrialisation and would continue to the economic welfare of the people of the state of Orissa.

[Translation]

- (iv) Need to construct an overbridge over Lucknow-Naka Railway crossing on Sultanpur-Lucknow road

SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH (Sultanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following important matter under Rule 377.

The Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh is surrounded by railway lines on its three sides. In the absence of an overbridge over Lucknow-Naka railway crossing on Sultanpur-Lucknow road, the people travelling in buses from the eastern districts are delayed by hours because of frequent closure of the railway crossings.

I would, therefore, request the Hon. Railway Minister to construct an overbridge over Lucknow-Naka railway crossing for the benefit of the commuters.

[English]

- (v) Need to protect the Chambal Valley reservoirs from sedimentation and to take measures to stop the illegal operations in the Chambal catchment area

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): Soil Erosion and Environmental deterioration are the major problems of Agriculture Sector in the rural areas of our country. As much as 998.76 lakh hectares of land is reported to be suffering from soil erosion, out of which 172.65 hectares are in Rajasthan alone. Considering the magnitude of this problem, Government of India is liberally investing funds for checking soil erosion and for improving environmental conditions all over. In Kota and Jhalawar Districts of Rajasthan also, we have an Anti-soil Erosion and Forest Preservation Scheme in the Chambal catchment areas. This is with a view to protect the Chambal reservoirs of Gandhi Sagar of Rana Pratap Sagar and of Jawahar Sagar from sedimentation in the last two decades. Crores of rupees have been spent on this scheme but the result is quite contrary to what had been contemplated.

Forests have been destroyed, illegal mining operations have been permitted and cattle colonies have been allowed to establish since the project came into force.

In view of these unhealthy developments, I would request the Minister of Forests and Environment to take precaution to protect the Chambal Valley reservoirs from sedimentation in future and stop the illegal operations of all sorts in the Chambal catchment area.

(vi) Need to fix the support price of groundnut at Rupees Six Hundred and fifty per quintal

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Agricultural Prices Commission is not able to take a realistic view in fixing the prices for agricultural commodities. Because of the lack of rural background, the Members of this Commission are not in a position to understand the travails and tribulations of the cultivators. It is highly necessary that somebody with rural background should be associated with the working of this Commission so as to fix remunerative prices for agricultural products. This year the Government had increased the price for sugar cane from Rs. 170 to Rs. 180 per tonne. The unrealistic attitude of the Agricultural Prices Commission is reflected in the fixation of prices of sugar cane and groundnut. Last year itself, the Government of Andhra Pradesh paid Rs. 65 more i. e. Rs. 235/- per tonne for sugar cane and even that was supposed to be unremunerative. So, increase in the price from Rs. 170 to Rs. 180 will not give any solace to the agriculturists. If the price of sugar per kg is increased by 50 NP, the agriculturists can be given Rs. 50 per tonne more. Moreover, with regard to the groundnut prices, the Centre has increased the price from Rs. 350/- to Rs. 370/- per quintal. Last year, the market price was Rs. 500/- per quintal and this year it is more than Rs. 550/- per quintal. So, the price of Rs. 370/- per quintal will not act as an incentive for the agriculturists to grow more groundnut. So, I request the Central Government to fix up the support price of groundnut at Rs. 650/- per quintal so that it may act as an incentive for cultivators to grow more groundnut in the country.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to install effluent treatment plants throughout the country particularly at Ranipet in Tamil Nadu to check pollution in the country

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam) : It has been mentioned in the Consultative Committee held very recently under the auspices of the Ministry of Industry that in the industrial complex in Baroda, the Gujarat State Government in cooperation with the Indian Petro-Chemicals Ltd. and the industrial units of the area, has successfully made arrangements for treating the effluents of various chemical and other industrial units there. It has also been informed that in Bombay also similar successful arrangement has been made in cooperation with the Indian Organic Chemicals Ltd.

Sir, in Tamil Nadu, in Vaniambadi, Ambur and in Ranipet, there are a large number of tanneries and other chemical units working both under the Government and the private sector, the effluences of which have been a great health hazard to thousands of people living there. The surface water, subsoil water, vegetation and paddy fields covering vast square miles are already greatly affected and becoming useless.

I would, therefore, request the Government to make similar arrangements for installation of effluents treatment plants in other parts of the country, particularly in my constituency, that is, Ranipet, so that fast pollution of land, water and the air is arrested and the people and the people and the vegetation in those areas are saved.

11.20 hrs.

SUSPENSION OF PROVISO TO
RULE 66

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(S. BUTA SINGH) : Sir, I beg to move :

*The Speech was originally delivered in Tamil.